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NATHAN MAGRUDER

OF

"KNAVE'S DISPUTE"

BY

CALEB CLARKE MAGRUDER

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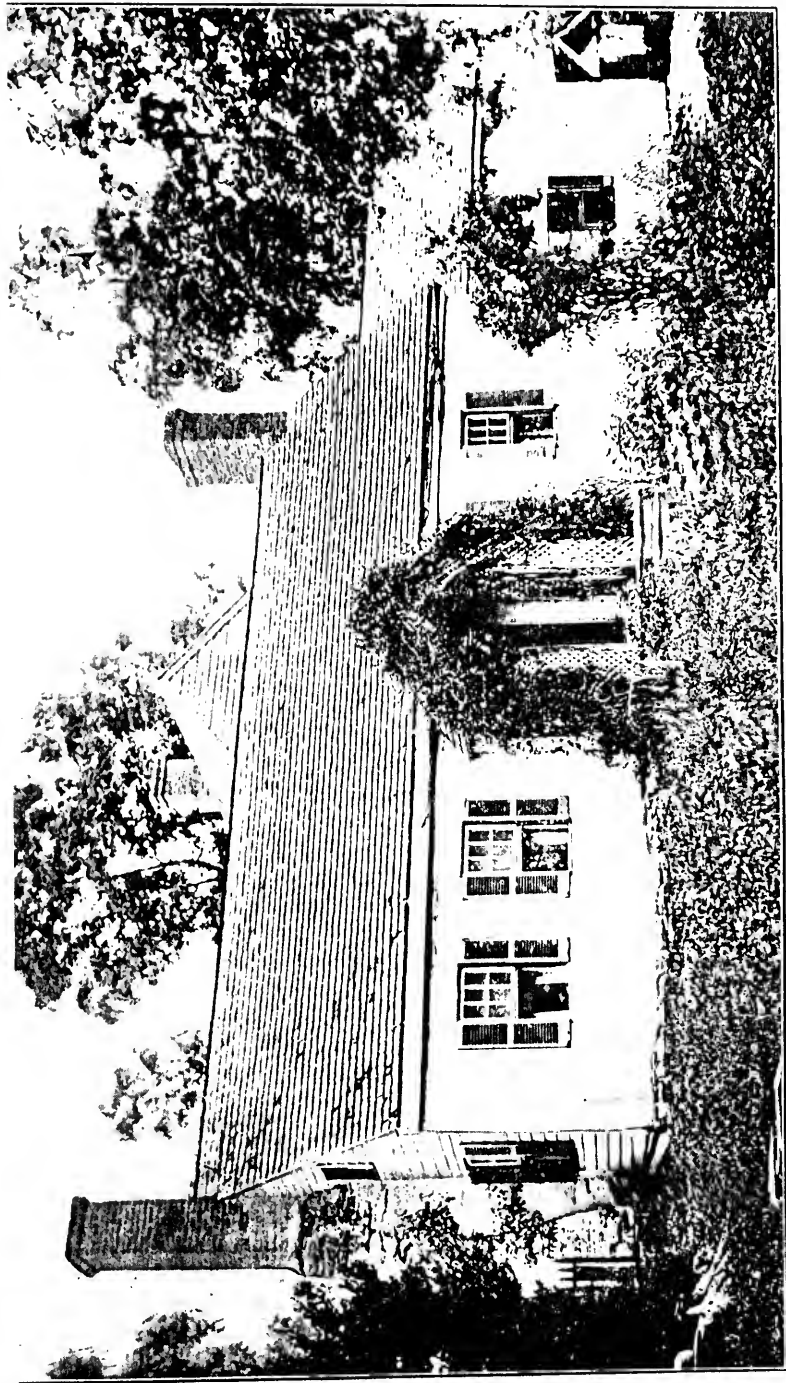
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"KNAVE'S DISPUTE," MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND.

Home of Nathan Magruder, built about 1748, razed about 1807. The gable end near the centre is of modern construction.

5/13/88

NATHAN MAGRUDER OF "KNAVE'S DISPUTE."

BY CALEB CLARKE MAGRUDER.*

NATHAN MAGRUDER, son of John Magruder and Susanna (Smith) Magruder, grandson of Samuel Magruder and Sarah (Beall) Magruder, and great-grandson of Alexander Magruder, Maryland immigrant, was born on his father's dwelling plantation, "Dunblane," Prince George's county, Maryland, about the year 1718.

He was probably the second son of a family of six children: Nathaniel, the oldest, married Margaret Magruder; Elizabeth, married John Burgess; Cassandra, married Henry Hilleary; Rebecca, married Benjamin Hall of Benjamin; and Zadok, married Rachel Bowie, born Pottinger.

Elizabeth and Nathaniel were familiar names in the Magruder family at this period, and Cassandra was so called for a maternal aunt, but we must go back to the *Old Testament* as a source for the names Rebecca, Zadok, and Nathan.

Bible students will readily recall the character of Rebecca as the wife of Isaac and the mother of Esau and of Jacob; also Zadok as the *priest* and Nathan as the *prophet*, the former of whom anointed the proverbial wise man, Solomon, as the successor king to his father, David. Zadok is the Hebrew for just-righteous, and in the same language Nathan signifies a gift.

Nathan Magruder was privately educated, there being no public schools within many miles of his home during his school years.

In October, 1748, John Magruder conveyed to his "son Nathan Magruder of Prince George's county, planter," "Knave's Dispute" and "The Ridge,"† containing one hundred and eighty acres; part of a tract known as "Charles and Benjamin," containing fifty acres; and a second part of "Knave's Dispute," containing forty acres.

August 10, 1750, John Magruder devised to his son Nathan, confirmatory of his conveyance of 1748, and also part of "Addition to Turkey Thicket," containing forty acres.

November 4, 1757, Robert Lamar, Jr., conveyed to Nathan Magruder five hundred acres of land in Frederick county known as "Wells' Invention."

*My thanks are due to William E. Muncaster and Alexander Muncaster for valuable data used in this paper.—*Author*.

† "The Ridge" and "The Ridges" appear to figure indiscriminately in many land transactions. John Magruder had surveyed (March 31, 1747) "The Ridge," 78¼ acres. Thomas Gittings conveyed to him (January 28, 1728) "Knave's Dispute" and "The Ridges," 180 acres. In his will he devises "Knave's Dispute" and "The Ridges," 180 acres, to his son Nathan; and "The Ridges," 70 acres, to his son Zadok. In devising this land Nathan Magruder calls his part "The Ridges."

April 9, 1766, a warrant issued to Nathan Magruder for nine acres adjoining "The Ridge," which upon survey, October 9, 1766, was found to contain thirteen acres, hence the name given—"The Mistake."

In the will of John Magruder occurs, "— to my son Nathan the land he now lives on being part of a tract of land called Knaves Dispute."

As all the lands so devised were located in that part of Prince George's county out of which Frederick county was erected in 1745 (although a county government was not inaugurated therein until 1748), it follows that Nathan Magruder had become a citizen of Frederick county at least as early as 1750, and it is even probable that he took up his residence there immediately after the property in question was conveyed to him by his father's deed of 1748.

About this time Nathan Magruder married his first cousin, Rebecca Beall, of Prince George's county, who was the daughter of John Beall and Verlinda Magruder; her paternal grandparents being Alexander Beall and Elizabeth Dick, and her maternal grandparents Samuel Magruder and Sarah Beall.

Shortly after the organization of Frederick county Nathan Magruder was appointed one of the County Judges or Justices, beginning his service at the March term of court, 1748, and continuing so to act for three years.

The position of Justice in colonial days was one of importance and responsibility, and only those of the highest citizenship dared aspire to its dignity.

Upon the completion of his judicial duties, he entered the House of Burgesses in 1751, serving for three years, and was again elected a member in 1761 for the sessions of that year and for 1762 and 1763.

During the last year of his membership an act was passed naming him with Rev. Thomas Bacon, Colonel Thomas Cresap, John Darnall, Thomas Beatty, Colonel Joseph Chapline and Colonel Samuel Beall as visitors or trustees of the Frederick County Free School.

This act authorized the said trustees to purchase an acre of ground in Frederick Town for the site of such free school.

All of these names stand out prominently in the history of Frederick county, especially those of the Rev. Thomas Bacon, at that time rector of All Saints' Parish, (who made the first compilation of Maryland laws dating from 1637 to 1763), Colonel Thomas Cresap, the brave old frontiersman whose name is inseparably linked with the Indian chief Logan; Colonel Samuel Beall, brother-in-law and first cousin of Nathan Magruder, who had marched with General Braddock, in 1755, on the ill-fated expedition to Fort Duquesne; colonel of militia during the Revolutionary War, and member of the Convention which framed the first Constitution for the State of Maryland in 1776.

This school was to have an equal division with other schools in the county from revenues collected in the province and apportioned for the purpose.

It is well to bear in mind here the distinction between public schools and free schools.

The charter of Maryland made no provision for schools.

By an act of 1694 school funds were to be raised by a tax on tobacco, Irish Catholic servants, and negro slaves imported into the colony.

This restriction on Irish Catholic servants was a direct resultant of the Revolution of 1689, in which its promoters claimed that the Catholics of Maryland opposed the succession of the House of Hanover, and had combined with the Indians to defeat acknowledgment of its sovereignty in the province.

The feeling for the Scotch kings of England was deep rooted among the colonists, and doubtless they preferred a continuation of Scottish succession, but that they combined with the Indians for the purpose of resorting to bloodshed, if necessary to nullify King William's influence, is untrue, as many contemporaneous documents evidencing an investigation of the conspiracy at the time of its alleged inception conclusively prove.

An act "For the encouragement of learning" was passed in 1695, by which persons living in the province were forbidden to export skins and furs except upon the payment of duty, a part of which was applied to the support of schools.

In 1723 these laws were revised and a greater impetus given to education through the public schools; but it was not until 1728 that gratuitous teaching was provided for poor children, during which year it was enacted that masters of schools receiving as much as one hundred dollars a year from the State should instruct as many poor children as the visitors or trustees should see fit to enter.

Thus it will be seen that Nathan Magruder was a visitor or trustee for the first free school ordered erected in Frederick county.

Unfortunately, as mentioned in a preamble to an act of 1768, the funds available for the purchase of ground and the erection of a school building being inadequate, and the visitors or trustees living so remote from one another, it was deemed wise to name their successors, decrease the area of land to be purchased to a half acre, and make provisions which insured its erection through the medium of a lottery.

In these days we teach our school youth that all forms of gambling is iniquitous, forgetful that time was when not only schools, but churches, were built out of the proceeds of public lotteries, going to prove that "out of evil cometh good."

It is interesting to add that in 1796 this lottery-built school became known as "Frederick County School"; in 1824, as "Frederick Town Free School"; and in 1833, as "Frederick College."

In 1758 a petition was presented to Governor Sharpe requesting a division of Prince George's Parish, Frederick (now Montgomery) county, in which it was alleged that the territory included in the parish was so great that it was inconvenient for parishioners to attend divine service, "to the disencouragement of religion and virtue," and also that said parish could well afford to support two ministers.

The first name appearing on this petition is that of Nathan Magruder, which order of signing, in Episcopal Church matters, generally warrants the conclusion that the signatory was senior warden.

Prince George's Parish was carved out of Rock Creek Parish in 1726, with Christ's Church, Rockville, as the parish church.

The petition was not favorably acted upon, and no division of the parish was made until 1794.

On the 16th of December, 1773, a number of Bostonians, disguised as Mohawk Indians, and under the cover of night, seized 242 chests of tea in Boston harbor and threw their contents overboard.

This action was an emphatic protest against odious taxes levied by the mother country. In retaliation Great Britain blockaded the port and harbor of Boston.

In the same month the newspapers of Maryland published the following call to lovers of liberty: "Friends! Brethren! Countrymen! That worst of plagues, the detested tea, is now arrived in the harbor of Boston. The hour of destruction or manly opposition to the machinations of tyranny stares you in the face!"

"Every friend to his country, to himself and posterity, is now called upon to make an united and successful resistance to this last, worst, and most destructive measure of administration."

The last Legislature of Maryland under the proprietary of Sir Henry Harford, with Robert Eden as Governor, met in Annapolis, March 23, 1774, and adjourned April 19th of the same year.

With its adjournment there was no governing body in the province. To insure a republican form of government, meetings were held in the several counties for the purpose of electing delegates to a provincial convention to assemble at Annapolis.

June 11, 1774, a large meeting of the inhabitants of lower Frederick county assembled in the historic Hungerford tavern, in the present town of Rockville, where it was—

"*Resolved*, unanimously, That it is the opinion of this meeting that the town of Boston is now suffering in the common cause of America."

"*Resolved*, unanimously, That every legal and constitutional measure ought to be used by all America for procuring a repeal of the Act of Parliament for blocking up the harbor of Boston."

"*Resolved*, unanimously, That it is the opinion of this meeting that the most effectual means for securing American freedom will be to break off all commerce with Great Britain and the West Indies until the said act be repealed, and the right of taxation given up as permanent principles."

Following these resolutions Nathan Magruder was unanimously endorsed, with nine others, to attend a General Committee which was to assemble at Annapolis, and also named as a member of the Committee of Correspondence for lower Frederick county.

After Governor Eden left Maryland in 1776, and until Thomas Johnson became Governor of the State in 1777, the province was governed by a General Convention, and when it was not in session by a Council of Safety.

Two of the most important committees which worked in harmony with these bodies were those of Observation and Correspondence.

Broadly speaking, the former noted any act of disloyalty to the colonists

and reported it to the latter, who in turn informed the General Convention or Council of Safety.

As a delegate from lower Frederick county, Nathan Magruder attended the first General Convention of the province, held at Annapolis on the 22d day of June, 1774, and participated in the passage of ringing non-importation resolutions.

A representative form of government was assumed by the delegates thus assembled and they elected delegates to the First Continental Congress, which was to assemble at Philadelphia.

Those thus honored were Matthew Tilghman, Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Johnson, and Robert Goldsborough, of whom Samuel Chase and William Paca subsequently signed the Declaration of Independence.

The First Continental Congress having passed a number of resolutions, a meeting was held in the Frederick county court-house on November 18, 1774, of those citizens "qualified to vote for representatives," and Nathan Magruder was elected one of a committee to carry into effect the several resolutions adopted by the Congress.

At another meeting in the Frederick county court-house, held on the 24th of January, 1775, were endorsed the resolutions of the General Convention, that the colonies "rely upon the products of their own fields and their own industry"; also that the inhabitants of Maryland, ranging from sixteen to fifty, form companies of sixty-eight men each, choose their own officers, and perfect themselves in military discipline.

September 6, 1776, two new counties were erected in Maryland, to be known as Washington and Montgomery counties.

The act directing the creation of the latter reads: "After the first day of October next, such part of the county of Frederick as is now contained in the bounds beginning at the east side of the mouth of Rock Creek, on the Potomac River, and running with the said river to the mouth of Monocacy, thence with a straight line to Parr's Spring, and thence with the lines of the county to the beginning, shall be, and is hereby, erected into a new county by the name of Montgomery county."

Maryland, in naming these new political sub-divisions, sought to honor George Washington, then leading the struggle for the people's independence, and Richard Montgomery, who had died a hero's death on the 31st of December, 1775, in his effort to take Quebec.

To perfect the functions of a county government in Montgomery a commission was named, consisting of Nathan Magruder, John Murdoch, Henry Griffith, Thomas Cramplin, Jr., Zadok Magruder, Allen Bowie, and John Willson.

This commission was authorized to purchase a lot of land, not exceeding four acres, for the site of the court-house and jail, at such location in the new county as the voters should determine.

The spot selected was historic ground, adjacent to the site of Owen's Ordinary, where General Edward Braddock encamped April 20, 1755, on his march to Fort Duquesne. The village which sprang up thereabout was known as Williamsburg, after a Prince George's family, which acquired land

there known in the main as "Exchange" and "New Exchange Enlarged," until, by an act of the Maryland Legislature of 1801, the name of the county seat was changed to *Rockville*, after Rock Creek a tributary of the Potomac, which waters many of the best lands in the county.

The present court-house of Montgomery county, dating from 1891, is the third erected in the county, all three of them standing within the borders of a tract purchased by the commission of which Nathan Magruder was a member.

In 1778 a return was made of those who took the Patriots' Oath in Montgomery county, upon which appear the names of Nathan Magruder, Isaac Magruder, and John B. (Beall) Magruder, the latter the son of Nathan Magruder, then living in the county.

The value of this list, apart from its significance of the loyalty of its signers to the colonists, is the evidence it furnishes that Isaac Magruder and John Beall Magruder were above the age of eighteen at its signing, which was probably in 1777, such test oath being subscribed to only by those of eighteen years and upward.

Nathan Magruder died in Montgomery county. His will was executed January 17, 1781, and admitted to probate in the same county on the 25th of April, 1786.

An echo of the Revolutionary War occurs in the bequest: "Whatever sterling money I may have in London, if ever obtained, four-fifths of which I give and bequeath to my aforesaid four daughters, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Sarah, and Verinda Magruder; the other one-fifth I give and bequeath to my son, John Beall Magruder, as an adequate reward for the services he may bestow upon his sisters."

His sons, Isaac, John Beall, and Jeffery Magruder, in the order named, were devised "Magruder's Farm," "Addition to Turkey Thicket," "The Ridges," "The Mistake," and part of "Charles and Benjamin," to be divided as therein indicated; Isaac and John Beall's portion being described as occupied by them at the time of the devise.

It will be recalled that by deed and the will of his father, John Magruder, Nathan Magruder acquired ownership in "Knave's Dispute" and "The Ridges" (180 acres), part of "Charles and Benjamin" (50 acres), a second part of "Knave's Dispute" (40 acres), part of "Addition to Turkey Thicket" (40 acres), and that he patented in 1766 "The Mistake" (13 acres). The records of Frederick and Montgomery counties evidence no further acquisition or sale of land on the part of Nathan Magruder in Montgomery county, so that his properties in that county aggregated 323 acres.

In his will neither "Knave's Dispute" nor a second part of "Knave's Dispute" is mentioned, but an entirely new named piece of land called "Magruder's Farm," which undoubtedly was formed by throwing into one plantation the two contiguous pieces last above mentioned.

With the devise to Jeffery was coupled the covenant that he "consents freely to let my daughters—viz., Elizabeth, Rebecca, Sarah, and Verinda Magruder—have and enjoy free liberty of and in my dwelling house and firewood from off the premises," together with other privileges, in remuneration

for which he was devised all the remaining pieces of land not included in the several division lines mentioned in his will, as well as a slave and personal property.

His son, Nathan Magruder, was devised the property he lived on in Frederick county, known as "The Resurvey" or "Wells' Invention" (500 acres), which the testator had acquired by deed from Robert Lamar, Jr., on November 4, 1757.

Setting up that his daughter, Susanna Tawnyhill, had previously been provided for, she was bequeathed a gold mourning ring or the equivalent in currency, as she might elect.

The four remaining daughters, already mentioned, were bequeathed a slave each, and made residuary legatees.

The debt contracted for the education of his son Jeffery was to be a charge upon his personal estate, such probably being for his medical education, since he was professionally a physician.

No mention of his wife, Rebecca (Beall) Magruder, is made, and it is reasonably certain, because of this omission, that she pre-deceased him.

As the administration records of Montgomery county prior to 1798 are not to be found on the probate side of that court, no detailed information is to be had as to any administration on Nathan Magruder's estate, nor is it known who administered, for, although he died testate, no executor is named in his will.

The burial place of Nathan Magruder and his wife is not positively known, but it is most probably in the family graveyard on "The Ridge"—the dwelling plantation of his brother, Colonel Zadok Magruder, where the latter and his wife also most probably rest.

There are many graves in this reserved quarter showing unmarked stones gathered here and there on the plantation; but the only marble stones are inscribed to the memory of Robert Pottinger Magruder, a son of Colonel Zadok Magruder, who died in 1822, and his wife, Elizabeth (Perry) Magruder, who died in 1835.

Nathan Magruder and his wife, Rebecca Beall, had nine children, as follows:

- (1) Isaac Magruder was born in 1755, and died in Prince George's county in 1808.

He married twice—first in 1778, Sophia Baldwin, born 1759. Their issue were:

Thomas Magruder, married Mary Clarke.
Henrietta Magruder, married Levin Beall.
Emma Corbett Magruder, married Brook M. Berry.
Clarissa Harlow, christened Harvey, married James Webb,
an Englishman.

His second marriage was in 1802, to Anne Hill. No issue.

- (2) Nathan Magruder died in Frederick county in 1836, probably unmarried, since one-third of his whole estate was devised to his nephew, Jeffery Magruder, son of his brother, Dr. Jeffery, with William Turnbull, relationship

unexpressed, but doubtless the son of his sister Rebecca, as residuary legatee.

(3) Dr. Jeffery Magruder was born April 20, 1762, and died intestate in Montgomery county in 1805, leaving a widow, Susanna Bowie, who died in 1815, and these children, named in the order of their ages:

Matilda Magruder, married Fielder Magruder, of Prince George's county.

Lewis Magruder, married Rebecca Duvall, his first cousin.

Mary Ann Magruder, born April 20, 1793, married Richard H. Griffith.

Eleanor Bowie Magruder, married Eli G. Warfield, of Anne Arundel county.

The above males were twenty-one years and over and the females sixteen years and over in 1814.

At this date the remaining children were:

Eliza Verlinda, about fourteen, married Henry Griffith of Lyde.

Cordelia Rebecca, born April 5, 1801, married Jefferson Griffith.

Jeffery Philip Thomas, born April 29, 1805.

(4) Susanna Magruder, married first ———— Tawnyhill, married second ———— Singleton, and died subsequent to September 29, 1829.

(5) Elizabeth Magruder, married ———— Hilleary, and died prior to September 29, 1829.

(6) Rebecca Magruder, married John Turnbull, and died prior to September 29, 1829.

(7) Sarah Magruder, married ———— Duvall, and died prior to September 29, 1829.

(8) Verlinda Magruder, probably died unmarried prior to September 29, 1829.

(9) John Beall Magruder died intestate, in Montgomery county, March 30, 1826.

A most interesting genealogical find is disclosed by a bill in equity for the sale of this decedent's land to satisfy creditors, filed in Montgomery county by Zadok Magruder, a first cousin, September 29, 1829.

It was brought in the name of Dr. William Bowie Magruder for payment of medical attendance and medicines furnished by him from January 27, 1826, to the date of decedent's death.

Serpent-like, it dragged its slow length along, until "Good Spring," containing twenty-five acres, and "Rich Plains," containing eighteen acres, were sold for \$298.45, which sale was finally ratified July 1, 1839, after nearly ten years' litigation, for the payment of a debt more than thirteen years old, amounting to \$40.75.

In this bill of complaint the heirs of John Beall Magruder are thus enumerated:

Nathan Magruder, a brother; Susan Singleton, a sister; Walter Hilleary, a nephew; Elizabeth Wells, grand-niece, and Alfred Wells, grand-

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ERROR—Line 30, " Cordelia "

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nephew (the latter two were under age in 1834), children of Rebecca Wells, who, with Walter Hilleary, were the children of Elizabeth Hilleary, deceased, a second sister.

Thomas B. Magruder, nephew; Clarissa Webb, wife of James Webb; Emma Berry, wife of Charles Berry, nieces; children of Isaac Magruder, deceased, a second brother.

Rebecca Owings, wife of Christopher Owings, a niece, and James Turnbull, a nephew, children of Rebecca Turnbull, deceased, a third sister.

Rebecca Magruder, wife of Lewis Magruder; Matilda Hilleary, wife of Theodore Hilleary, nieces; and Rector Duvall, nephew, children of Sarah Duvall, a fourth sister.

Mary Griffith, wife of Richard H. Griffith, Ellen B. Magruder, Eliza V. Griffith, wife of Henry Griffith of Lyde, Cordelia R. Griffith, wife of Jefferson Griffith, Matilda Magruder, wife of Fielder Magruder, nieces, and Jeffery P. Magruder and Lewis Magruder, nephews, children of Jeffery Magruder, deceased, a third brother.

It will be observed that his sister, Verlinda Magruder, is not mentioned as an heir at law, or any interest claiming under her.

Alfred and Elizabeth Wells, Susan Singleton, Charles Berry and Emma, his wife, James Turnbull, Lewis Magruder and Rebecca, his wife, Theodore Hilleary and Matilda, his wife, and Rector Duvall were cited as non-residents of the State of Maryland.

Nathan Magruder, Rebecca Owings, and Christopher Owings lived in Frederick county.

Walter Hilleary, Alfred Wells, Elizabeth Wells, Thomas B. Magruder, James Webb and Clarissa, his wife, Fielder Magruder and Matilda, his wife, resided in Prince George's county.

Jeffery P. T. Magruder, Richard H. Griffith and Mary, his wife, Ellen B. Magruder, Henry Griffith of Lyde and Elizabeth V., his wife, Jefferson Griffith and Cordelia R., his wife, were residing in Montgomery county.

I do not believe this enumeration of the heirs of John Beall Magruder is complete and accurate, for there are several statements regarding my own line of descent which should be corrected.

My grandfather, mentioned as a son of Isaac, a brother of John Beall, was named Thomas Magruder, with no middle initial, although he was called for his grandfather, Thomas Baldwin, who devised him property on which I now reside.

No mention is made of Henrietta, a daughter of the said Isaac Magruder, who married Levin Beall, and another daughter, Emma Corbett, is spoken of as the wife of Charles Berry, when his name should have been given as Brook M. Berry.

November 11, 1813, Henry Williamson, trustee, to dispose of the real estate of Isaac Magruder, deceased, conveyed to Mary Young, wife of John Young, of Caroline county, Maryland, Margaret Dickerson, John Turnbull, Elizabeth Dickerson, William Turnbull, James Turnbull, and Rebecca Turnbull, Jr., of Montgomery county, as the heirs of John Turnbull, deceased, "Magruder's Farm," containing 297½ acres. The deed recites the

death of John Turnbull, purchaser, before payment of the balance of the purchase price.

July 3, 1852, William Turnbull conveyed to Otho Magruder "Magruder's Farm" containing 265¼ acres, part of the land conveyed by Henry Williamson, trustee, to the heirs of John Turnbull, as surveyed February 7, 1852, 38 1-8 acres having been previously deeded to Nathan Dickerson.

By the will of Otho Magruder, probated April 22, 1856, the property purchased from William Turnbull, known as "Magruder's Farm" (265 acres), was devised to his nephew, Edwin M. Muncaster.

March 22, 1864, Edwin M. Muncaster conveyed to Walter M. Talbott and Harriet M., his wife, "Magruder," or "Magruder's Farm," 265¼ acres, being the same land conveyed by William Turnbull to Otho Magruder, and by the latter devised to the grantor.

April 7, 1864, Walter M. Talbott and Harriet M., his wife, conveyed to Edwin M. Muncaster, for \$3,978.75, the consideration named in the first above deed, her undivided interest in tracts known as "Cook's Inheritance," "Cook's Choice," "Cook's Range," "Underwood," "Ann's Garden," and two pieces of "All Important" or "Unimportant," which lands were conveyed in trust by William Robertson and Harriet, his wife, to Edwin M. Muncaster, June 18, 1850. In the will of Edwin M. Muncaster, probated July 26, 1881, Harriet M. Talbott is named as a daughter.

January 1, 1868, Walter M. Talbott and Harriet M., his wife, gave a mortgage on "Magruder's Farm" to Lyde Griffith.

November 1, 1875, the mortgagor assigned the same to Adrian R. Wadsworth, who, on April 24, 1876, assigned his right to Josiah W. Jones.

Default in the payment of the mortgage having occurred, Jones sold the property to Hilleary L. Offutt.

The sale was finally ratified December 11, 1878, but before the Court's action the purchaser died.

In accordance with the will of Hilleary L. Offutt, the property was sold for a division of the proceeds among his widow, Anna M. Offutt, and children, Anna L., Magruder W., Hilleary L., and Edwin W. Offutt.

James B. Henderson and Spencer Watkins, as trustees, and Josiah W. Jones, as assignee of the original mortgage, gave a deed for the property June 17, 1879, to Emily Cookson.

April 14, 1885, Emily Cookson conveyed "Magruder's Farm" to William Kemp, excepting therefrom 9¼ acres conveyed to David Griffith and others in exchange for 9½ acres of "Cook's Inheritance" (*sic*), under date of February 4, 1880.

March 16, 1888, William Kemp and Susan R., his wife, conveyed to Thaddeus T. Bussard "Magruder's Farm" and part of "Cook's Range" (*sic*), near the village of Redland, containing 266 acres.

These conveyances show that "Magruder's Farm," originally known as "Knave's Dispute," the home of Nathan Magruder, has passed into the ownership of strangers.

The present owners have greatly improved the natural fertility of the soil, so that now it is fine grazing land and well adapted to the production of

all staple crops. About seven years ago the old manor house, erected by Nathan Magruder, was razed, and a more modern and commodious residence erected in its stead. The style of architecture of the old home was very much like that of "Dunblane" and "The Ridge," and, having been fortunate enough to secure a photograph, a reproduction of which accompanies this article, so that its outlines are thus preserved for all time, to the delight and interest of the many descendants of Nathan Magruder.

Nathan Magruder was the son of John Magruder and Susanna Smith, grandson of Samuel Magruder and Sarah Beall, great-grandson of Alexander Magruder, Maryland immigrant.

Now and bequeath to my son John Beall Magruder all that land
and plantation whereon he now lives, the said lands to be divided
among his brother Jeffers part by a line, beginning at the end of the
1st line of Magruder's farm, and continuing Northward to the
out line of said land then continuing with the said out line was to
include his said land and plantation to the first mentioned beginning
together with the addition to such Truckee to himself and John Beall
Magruder and his heirs forever.

And I will my son Jeffers Magruder presents freely to Henry Dunge-
tes Esq. Vignettes, Elizabeth Carle and Andrew Carle's, husband
enjoy free liberty of land in my dwelling house, and free free farming
the premises without molestation, so long as they may enjoy

In the name of God, amen.

I Nathaniel Magruder of Montgomery County in the State of Maryland a free & single Man of perfect age and sound mind and understanding do hereby constitute & declare this my last will & testament in full understanding of my free & lawful intentions my last and final Testament and dispose of my Goods Effects and Chattels in the manner & form following

First I give and bequeath unto my dear wife Mary Magruder the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds of lawful money of the United States to be paid to her at the death of the said Nathaniel Magruder

Secondly I give and bequeath unto my dear wife Mary Magruder the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds of lawful money of the United States to be paid to her at the death of the said Nathaniel Magruder

Thirdly I give and bequeath unto my dear wife Mary Magruder the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds of lawful money of the United States to be paid to her at the death of the said Nathaniel Magruder

Fourthly I give and bequeath unto my dear wife Mary Magruder the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds of lawful money of the United States to be paid to her at the death of the said Nathaniel Magruder

Fifthly I give and bequeath unto my dear wife Mary Magruder the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds of lawful money of the United States to be paid to her at the death of the said Nathaniel Magruder

